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*The first aid flight from Britain has landed in Burma carrying relief supplies for the victims of Cyclone Nargis. 36 tonnes of aid were delivered today, with further British flights expected over the coming days. Here's our correspondent Jonathan Head:*

The Burmese military has now **banned** all foreigners and any cameras from going into the **stricken Irrawaddy delta** but aid agencies say they are slowly improving the delivery of **relief supplies**, using local staff and organisations like the Red Cross. However tens of thousands of survivors remain **without adequate food and shelter** and more heavy rain is forecast over the next twenty-four hours.

The first aircraft from Britain has now arrived in Rangoon, carrying thirty-six tonnes of equipment like plastic **sheeting** and **jerry cans**, **more British aid flights are likely to follow**.

**There is continued diplomatic pressure on** Burma to accept a much larger **international presence**, but governments appear to have decided it's still worth flying aid into the country, despite the many uncertainties over how well and how quickly it can be **distributed** to the cyclone's victims.

Jonathan Head, BBC News, Bangkok

## Vocabulary and definitions

<b>banned</b>	forbidden, stopped allowing
<b>stricken Irrawaddy delta</b>	the area of low flat land where the Irrawaddy, Burma's main river, divides into several smaller rivers before flowing into the sea; this area was most affected by the cyclone
<b>relief supplies</b>	the most necessary goods, like basic food, clean water, medicines and basic equipment, that have started to arrive from other countries
<b>without adequate food and shelter</b>	having neither enough food, nor anywhere to hide/protect themselves from bad weather
<b>sheeting</b>	thin plastic material that can be used for lining or covering surfaces
<b>jerry cans</b>	large metal containers with flat sides used for storing or carrying liquids, such as fuel or water
<b>more British aid flights are likely to follow</b>	more planes from the UK carrying relief supplies will probably arrive in Burma soon
<b>There is continued diplomatic pressure on</b>	many countries and international organisations are trying hard to convince (by arguing strongly that it's right)
<b>international presence</b>	number of people - mainly relief workers - from abroad
<b>distributed</b>	shared out, given

**More on this story:** <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/7399830.stm>

**Read and listen to the story and the vocabulary online:**

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/newsenglish/witn/2008/05/080514\\_burma.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/newsenglish/witn/2008/05/080514_burma.shtml)